Assessment and Management of Acute Pain
Treatment Algorithm

Algorithm boxes #14-16 list treatments in alphabetical order

14

Somatic pain treatment:
- Acetaminophen
- Cold packs
- Corticosteroids
- Local anesthetic (topical or infiltration)
- NSAIDs
- Opioids (via any route)
- Tactile stimulation

A

Or

15

Visceral pain treatment:
- Corticosteroids
- Intraspinal local anesthetic agents
- NSAIDs
- Opioids (via any route)

A

Or

16

Neuropathic pain treatment:
- Anticonvulsants
- Corticosteroids
- Neural blockade
- NSAIDs
- Opioids (via any route)
- Tricyclic antidepressants

A

23

Select an alternate treatment choice

17

Prevention/intervention:
- Patient education
- Pharmacologic therapy
- Specialty consult (if indicated)
- Intervention/surgical procedures
- Non-pharmacologic approaches

A

22

See ICSI Chronic Pain guideline and/or consider referral to pain specialist

21

Has pain persisted > 6 weeks?

A

no

yes

20

Return to box #10 "Determine mechanism(s) of pain" on previous page

19

Still confident of pain mechanism?

no

yes

18

Adequate pain relief?

no

yes

24

Intolerable symptoms secondary to treatment?

A

yes

no

25

Side effect management

A

26

Follow-up/ reassess

A

A = Annotation